

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 48, line 18, with the following paragraph for this application.

In the optical pickup apparatus of FIG. 10, the direction of the emission beam from the laser diodes 1' and 2' to enter the polarization hologram 90 is adjusted such that the p-polarized light of the emission beam from the laser light source suitably enters the polarization ~~beam~~ hologram 90. In the present embodiment, the emission beam from the laser light source efficiently passes through the polarization hologram 90 toward the optical disk 7 or 8. The emission beam passing through the polarization hologram 90 is converted into a circularly polarized beam at the quarter-wave plate 15. The reflection beam from the optical disk 7 or 8 is converted into a linearly polarized beam by the quarter-wave plate 15, and the polarizing directions of the reflection beam are rotated 90° from the original polarizing directions. The s-polarized light of the reflection beam from the quarter-wave plate 15 enters the polarization hologram 90. The polarization hologram 90 diffracts 80% or more of the s-polarized light of the reflection beam to the photodetector 10B as the +1-order diffracted ray and the -1-order diffracted ray. Therefore, 40% or more of the s-polarized light of the reflection beam can be collected to the photodetector 10B as the light spot thereon. The optical pickup apparatus of the present embodiment is effective in increasing the efficiency of light transmission from the laser diodes 1' and 2' to the photodetector 10B over the efficiency of the previous embodiment of FIG. 6.